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as the highest in Wales, but as to every other particular, *na-boc-lish*.

Capel Curig forms an excellent centre for a pedestrian tourist for two or three days. He has of course made the same delay at least in Bangor, and, while there, explored to mid-way between that and this "station." Here he can do the same half way to "Carnidge;" and if he return from the Chapel of the Rock—Capel Curig—not having visited, with all due reverence, the *white-headed* patriarch of Welsh mountains—Snowden—let him never speak, in the presence of a Welshman, of having seen the country. I would not, however, recommend a drink of the half-way waters, a sparkling well on the side of the mountain. It "bloats" on the walk, without quenching the thirst, and the brandy-bottle is a bad counter-actor. Notwithstanding, a visit to the hoary-headed monarch of the hills, overtopping the top of "Glyden Bach" should not be neglected: and if the traveller rejoice in a passion for that laziest of lazy-time-killers, fishing, of all the land of Glendower this is the spot to meet with amusement. Yet, whoever "played a salmon" on the banks of the Blackwater, from Mallow to Youghal, "tied a hackle," or "cast a line" in Loughs "Bray," "Lugga-law," or "Lough-Dan" will deny to poor Paddy's streams fish as *good*, and as *plenty* as ever were caught.

When we arrived, there were few amongst us either unable or unwilling to take "the goods the gods provided," and were our meal the reverse of what it was—a very good one—I fancy there would have been still fewer complaints, at all events until it was too late to complain. A blazing fire, in a good room, romantically placed in the bosom of the mountains, and peeping through a hedge of ever-greens, over the surface of a lake, with tea, coffee, bread, butter, muffins, toast, eggs, three or four sorts of meat, and trout leaping up on the gridiron, considering lent times, gave neither an unwelcome or uninviting reception after the morning's drive. Cost of our comfort two shillings.

It would appear experience of those *watery* regions has taught the inhabitants sympathy towards their fellows immersed in distress; for while busied at 'the board,' our cloaks and comfortables were completely dried. So, comfortably dry without, and comfortably wet within, I drew my muffler round my neck, gathered my cloak close to the shoulders, had some fresh straw for my feet, and in another minute the remnants of beef, ham, trout, and chops were out of sight, far in the distance. There you must leave, for the present, your sincere friend,

BARNY O'TRUE AND THRO.

#### POPULAR LECTURES ON THE PHYSIOLOGY OF ANIMALS.

*The following is an abstract of Dr. Henry's fifth Lecture:*

##### THE TONGUE.

The tongue is the organ of taste. The sense of taste is so commonly supposed to be seated in the palate, that we use the term palate as equivalent to the sense of taste; but in correct language, the palate signifies the roof of the mouth, and the tongue, not the palate, is the organ of taste. The palate, indeed, as well as the inside of the cheeks, and a considerable part of the intestinal canal, possesses considerable sensibility to impressions, particularly to those which are made by very pungent substances, as mustard, pepper, salt, &c.; but as the tongue alone is supplied by the gustatory nerve, so the tongue alone perceives the impressions of sapid bodies. There is an analogy to be observed here between the nose and mouth, viz:—that although the whole of the interior of the nostrils is lined by the pituitary membrane, yet the upper part only of that membrane, or that part which receives the olfactory nerves, actually smells: so although the whole of the interior of the mouth is lined by a membrane of considerable delicacy and sensibility, yet the tongue alone tastes. The gustatory nerve is not, like the olfactory, auditory, and optic nerves, a separate nerve coming directly from the brain, and going to supply the organ of sense; but it is a branch of another nerve, commonly

called the *fifth pair*, which supplies a great many other parts of the head, giving to them the power of common feeling only, whilst that branch of it which goes to the tongue gives to that organ the sense of taste. The tongue although apparently single, being placed on the central line, is yet in reality a double organ, and is divided along the middle by a line, very evident in some persons, into two similar and equal halves. This division of the tongue into two similar halves is much more evident in some other animals than in man; many quadrupeds having the extremity notched, and in the serpent tribe the extremity being bifid, so as to give the tongue the appearance of being double. As the nostrils are subservient alike to the function of respiration and the sense of smell, so the tongue performs several important offices besides serving as an organ of taste. First—In man it serves for the articulation of sounds, which is one of its principal uses. Secondly—For moving the food in the process of mastication, and in the first part of the act of swallowing. Thirdly—Some animals, as the dog, cat, &c., lap fluids with the tongue. Fourthly—Some, as reptiles, catch their prey by means of this organ. Of this there is a well known instance in the chameleon, the extremity of whose tongue is formed like a hollow cup, and besmeared with a glutinous substance. This animal darts the tongue with great precision at the insect on which it preys; the insect becomes entangled in the viscid mucus, and is drawn into the animal's mouth. The tongue is probably much less susceptible of the impressions of sapid bodies in most other animals than in man. This is shown—First by the well observed fact, that animals judge of the qualities of their food principally by their smell, and cannot, without the greatest difficulty, be brought to taste any substance which they have once examined by the smell and decided against. This is very observable in the horse, who can not be brought to eat hay which he has once *blown upon*. On the other hand, animals seldom reject food as disagreeable when they have once taken it into the mouth. Secondly—By observation of the structure of the tongue, which is in most animals ill adapted for the perception of savours, except in a limited portion; whilst in others the tongue seems, from its structure, to be quite unfit for perceiving savours at all. Thus, in the ruminating animals, the tongue is covered by a thick, horny coat, particularly towards the back part, which must greatly interfere with its power of taste. There are numerous sharp-pointed papillæ on this coat, all pointed backwards, which are of material service to these animals in enabling them to direct their food, whether of grass, or corn, or hay, towards the gullet, and in preventing its being pushed forward by its elasticity, and its sharp points, while the animal is endeavouring to force it towards the back part of the throat. In birds, with some exceptions, (as the parrot tribe,) the tongue is horny, and unfit to serve as an organ of taste. They have, beside, no teeth by which the food could be bruised and the juice expressed. In those of them particularly which live on grain, an organ of taste would be useless, as the grain is swallowed whole, and with great rapidity lodged in the crop. In fishes also the tongue has evidently little power of taste, and in many animals of this class there is only a rudiment of a tongue. In some it is studded with teeth, which are also to be found on the palate, and in the throat of some species.—These teeth being sharp, and having their points turned towards the throat, serve to prevent the egress of the small fishes, on which the larger ones live, and which enter the stomach of the latter living and whole.

#### INDIAN ZOOLOGY.

The greater islands of the Indian sea are all mountainous, and full of burning or extinguished volcanoes. The parts neglected by human culture are full of woods, which abound with the most beautiful and singular birds, especially parrots, peacocks, pigeons, and others infinitely diversified with the gayest and most varied plumage; together with herds of antelopes, tribes of monkeys, and numbers of lions and tigers. The elephant and rhinoceros also inhabit these forests, which scarcely ever lose